

Crochet Gauge Troubleshooting Flowchart

Fix your gauge quickly and get back to crocheting

Start Here

Did your gauge match the pattern?

- Yes → 🎉 You're ready to start your project!
 - No → ↓ Follow the steps below
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Step 1: Check Your Stitch Count

Do you have **MORE** stitches than the pattern?

(Example: Pattern says 16, you have 18)

 Your stitches are **too tight**

✓ Solution:

- Go **up** a hook size
- Make a new swatch

↓

Do you have **FEWER** stitches than the pattern?

(Example: Pattern says 16, you have 14)

 Your stitches are **too loose**

✓ Solution:

- Go **down** a hook size
 - Make a new swatch
-

Step 2: Check Your Row Count

Are your rows too short (more rows than pattern)?



➔ Tight tension

✓ Solution:

→ Relax your tension

→ Try a larger hook

↓

Are your rows too tall (fewer rows than pattern)?

➔ Loose tension

✓ Solution:

→ Tighten your tension

→ Try a smaller hook

Step 3: Still Not Matching?

If your gauge is still off after changing hook size:

✓ Try switching **hook brands**

✓ Double-check your **stitch pattern**

✓ Make sure you're using the **same yarn type**

✓ Measure from the **center of your swatch**

Step 4: Consider Blocking

Does your pattern require blocking?

Yes → Block your swatch, let it dry, then measure again

No → Continue adjusting hook size

Step 5: Special Case – Amigurumi

Making amigurumi?

👉 Exact gauge isn't required

✓ Focus on:

- Tight, dense stitches
- No visible gaps
- Stuffing not showing

➡ If fabric is loose → go down a hook size

✓ Final Check

Once your stitches and rows match:

✓ Use that same hook for your entire project

✓ Check gauge again as you go (especially for garments)

Remember

Gauge doesn't have to be perfect—it just needs to be **consistent and close enough** for your project to turn out right.